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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 SES-01 SPH-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 SMS-01 /080 W
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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6941
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 12065: GDS 2/4/86 (AMSTUTZ, J. BRUCE) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR, US, EG, CH, AF
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER DOST CLAIMS U.S. GOVERNMENT IS
ONE OF AFGHANISTAN'S PRINCIPAL THREATS

1. (U) SUMMARY. IN A NEWS CONFERENCE LAST WEEK WITH INDIAN
AND COMMUNIST COUNTRY JOURNALISTS, THE AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER
POINTED TO THE UNITED STATES AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S PRINCIPAL
THREATS AND CLAIMED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS OPENLY
ADMITTED TO THE TRAINING AND ARMING OF REBELS IN PAKISTAN.
HE ALSO NAMED CHINA, EGYPT AND "CERTAIN REACTIONARY MIDDLE
EAST COUNTRIES" AS EQUALLY HOSTILE OPPONENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) WHERE ANTI-AMERICAN STATEMENTS ARE THE RULE THESE
DAYS IN ALMOST EVERY ARTICLE AND BROADCAST IN THE GOVERNMENT-
CONTROLLED MEDIA, I THINK WE HAD BETTER MENTION FOR THE
RECORD THE RECENT STATEMENTS FOREIGN MINISTER SHAH MOHAMMAD
DOST MADE ABOUT THE U.S. THESE WERE CARRIED IN AN OFFICIAL
BAKHAR NEWS AGENCY TRANSCRIPT OF AN INTERVIEW DOST HELD WITH
INDIAN, MONGOLIAN AND POLISH CORRESPONDENTS, PROBABLY ON
JANUARY 26 OR 27. THE PERTINENT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
ARE REPRODUCED BELOW:
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"Q. WHICH COUNTRIES DO POSE THREATS TO AFGHANISTAN?

"A. I SHOULD SAY THAT I HAVE POINTED OUT THIS QUESTION
IN GENERAL. THIS SUBJECT IS NO MORE A SECRET. FOR SOME
TIME WE USED TO REFRAIN FROM DISCLOSING THE NAMES OF THESE
COUNTRIES DUE TO COMPLETE POLITICAL REASONS. BUT NOW EVEN
THEY THEMSELVES DO NOT HIDE THIS.

"FOR EXAMPLE, AMERICANS SAY THAT OWING TO THE EXISTING

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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(X) RELEASE (X) DECLASSIFY
() EXCISE () DECLASSIFY in PART
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TS authority to:
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() DECLASSIFY TS to () S or () G, OADR

CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE NEW CHANGES IN AFGHANISTAN THEY GIVE ARMS TO PAKISTAN AND ALSO TO THE TERRORIST BANDS, REBELS AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY GANGSTERS. THE CHINESE LEADERS DO NOT HIDE ANYTHING EITHER AND THEY SAY THAT THEY DO THE SAME ACTS. FURTHERMORE, YOU KNOW THAT THE LANDS OF PAKISTAN AND OTHER PLACES IN THE PASHTOON AND BALUCHI REGIONS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE REALIZATION OF THEIR OBJECTIVES. EGYPT DOES NOT HIDE HER MOVEMENTS EITHER. SADAT HIMSELF HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS PLACED CAMPS AT THE DISPOSAL OF REBELS IN CAIRO TO GET THEM TRAINED AND THAT HE IS READY TO SUPPLY ALL KINDS OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO THE REBELS. SOME OTHER REACTIONARY COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE OSTENSIBLY EXPLAINED THAT THEY PROVIDE ECONOMIC, MATERIAL AND MORAL HELP TO THESE TERRORISTIC ELEMENTS AND REBELS. THESE COUNTRIES HAVE ADMITTED IN THE PAST AND NOW THAT THEY GIVE REFUGE TO THESE ELEMENTS AND RIGHT NOW THERE ARE MANY OF THEM IN THESE COUNTRIES SEEKING TO RECEIVE MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL AIDS AND ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS.

"APART FROM THIS, BEFORE I CAME TO MEET YOU HERE, I READ A NEWS ITEM THAT CARTER, WHILE POINTING OUT THE EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN, HAS INSTRUCTED THE DRAFT OF APPROXIMATELY 16 MILLIONS OF BOTH SEXES INCLUDING YOUNG GIRLS IN MILITARY SERVICE TO FIGHT AGAINST THESE EVENTS. NOW EVERY FACT IS CLEAR THAT THESE COUNTRIES ARE NOT SEEKING TO HIDE SUCH

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ACTS. THESE FACTS CLEARLY SHOW THAT THESE COUNTRIES ARE CARRYING HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST AFGHANISTAN."

3. (C) COMMENT: IT COMES AS NO SURPRISE THAT DOST SHOULD IDENTIFY THE U.S. AS ONE OF THE DRA'S ARCH-OPPONENTS. ONLY TO A LESSER EXTENT IS IT ALSO NOT SURPRISING THAT DOST SHOULD CLAIM THAT THE "AMERICANS SAY . . . THEY GIVE ARMS TO THE TERRORIST BANDS, REBELS, AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY GENGSTERS." OUR GUESS IS THAT THE LATTER ALLEGATION IS BASED ON FREQUENT SOVIET MEDIA ARTICLES OVER THE LAST YEAR WHICH HAVE BEEN MAKING THIS CLAIM. AMSTUTZ

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